REMARKS

Claims 44, 47-56, 59, 60, 62 and 63 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 25, 34, 39, 43 and 57 are canceled, claim 44 is amended, and new claims 62 and 63 are added. Claim 44 is amended to correct for an informality and not to overcome any prior art. New claims 62 and 63 replace allowable claims 39 and 43, respectively, which have been canceled. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 39, 43, 47-57, 59 and 60 are allowable, that claim 34 includes allowable subject matter, and that claim 44 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

The Office Action rejects claim 44 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, because of an informality. Claim 44 has been amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,095,348 to Houston et al. Claim 25 has been canceled. Thus, the rejection is moot.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 44, 47-56, 59, 60, 62 and 63 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 31, 2003

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